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Satellites May Solve Puzzle Of Mysterious 'Flying Saucers'

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WASHINGTON, — Many observers of space should predict a solution to the intriguing mystery of the nature of unidentified flying objects—the UFOs—have turned up again in the wake of Russia's two Sputniks.

This is the belief of former head of the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency, Adm. H. Hillenkoetter.

"Satellite and space exploration programs should give us new, valuable information on UFOs, affording definite evidence as to their reality," he says, "and this will result because of the tremendous increase in observation of the sky by radar and tracking systems and by new eye observations." He adds:

"This will certainly increase the number of detailed UFO reports from trained observers, including accurate measurements of courses, speeds, altitudes, maneuvers, and sizes of such objects."

Since leaving as boss of the nation's top-level intelligence agency, the admiral has remained one of the best-informed saucer experts in the country. He is a member of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Aerial Phenomena Research Group.

NICAP's members are some of the top scientists and private citizens attempting to find answers to the saucer mystery. Members of the board include J. B. Hartrift, president of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Dr. Charles Maney, professor of astronomy at DePaul University; and Leon C. Le Van of Princeton.

They all agree that the exploration could be a matter of secrets. And it's been already greatly increased by saucer sightings.

Retired Marine Maj. Keyhoe, NICAP's known author of saucers, reports:

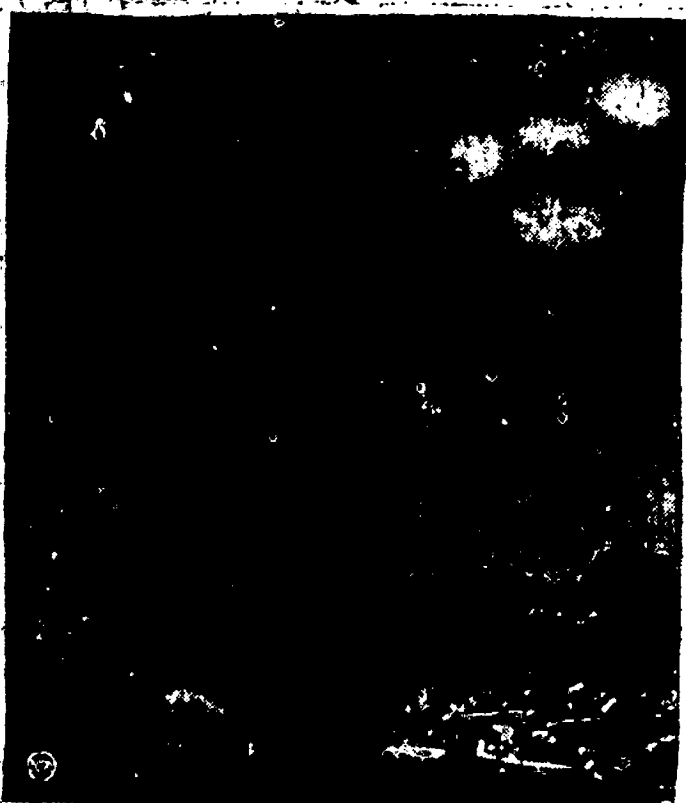
"There are already authentic UFO reports."

Russian satellite drew public attention to the skies. Also, spotters of Operation Moonwatch, the U. S. satellite tracking network, have sighted a number of UFOs during tracking practices over wide areas.

For example, several days after Sputnik's appearance an Air Force jet pilot flying 42,000 feet over Washington at night reported to Moonwatch control center officers here that he saw "a disk-shaped object flashing across the sky. Moonwatch officials quickly determined that it could not have been Sputnik."

The relay of the pilot's message was not fast enough to try to track whatever the object was. But the reporting procedure is being speeded up so that tracking any reported UFO will be possible in the future.

"The army of amateur and professional astronomers, with all kinds of telescopes, which is organized under Moonwatch, is an ideal organization for checking saucer reports," a spokesman says.



DID SOMEBODY ELSE get there first? This photo of "strange objects" dates back to 1952 when it was snapped by a Coast Guard photographer at Salem, Mass.

AF Maj. Dewey Fournet, previously the Pentagon project officer on UFOs and now a member of the NICAP board, looks to the future when U. S. satellites will be in the skies in great numbers. He says:

"U. S. satellites—especially the larger ones—can be instrumented to detect or photograph UFOs within their range and transmit details to earth stations."

Maj. Keyhoe elaborates on this idea:

"Russia and the U. S. have announced they are definitely planning several space machines. So it is quite possible that these first space ships or satellites may encounter other interplanetary machines, manned or otherwise. Our space devices may even be closely approached by such alien machines."

"If this happens our space devices could be equipped to attempt automatic communication, by light or signals, or by radio, when near UFOs. Any answer would be automatically relayed to earth, and direct communication could then be established from earth stations by remote control of the communication systems."

Keyhoe also adds:

"Since the U. S. and the Russians are planning moon bases, it is not impossible that a race from some other planet could already have set up such an operating base on the moon."